

Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00257 111109Z

51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NIC-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ERDA-05 CU-02 OMB-01 /082 W

----- 120871

R 101401Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5209

INFO COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE REYKJAVIK 0257

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, NO

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS SUCCESSOR TO ABRUPTLY DEPARTING SOVIET

AMBASSADOR KIRICHENKO

REF: OSLO 0931 (NOTAL)

1. INDEPENDENCE PARTY'S DAILY MORGUNBLADID REPORTED YESTERDAY THAT NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO ICELAND WILL BE FARA FONOU, ASSISTANT CHIEF OF NORDIC DIVISION OF SOVIET MFA SINCE 1972 AND FORMERLY SOVIET DCM IN HELSINKI.

2. SAME ACCOUNT STRESSES ABRUPT TRANSFER TO OSLO OF INCUMBENT SOVIET AMBASSADOR YURI KIRICHENKO WHO, PAPER SAYS, ARRIVED WITH EQUAL SUDDENNESS IN AUGUST 1973 WHEN MOSCOW ENTERTAINED HOPE THAT US DEFENSE FORCE WOULD BE REMOVED FROM ICELAND. ARTICLE NOTES THAT KIRICHENKO'S USDDEN TRANSFER TO

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OSLO COMES AT TIME WHEN SOVIETS SEEM TO BE PUTTING

INCREASING PRESSURE ON NORDICS WITH DEMAND THAT AREA
BE MADE NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE AND EFFORTS TO SECURE SOME
TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP IN NORDIC COUNCIL.

3. COMMENT: DEPARTURE OF KIRICHENKO, WHO IS
SCHEDULED TO LEAVE MARCH 12, APPARENTLY COMES AS
Genuine SURPRISE TO EVERYONE CONCERNED IN-
CLUDING HIM. TRANSFER COINCIDES, FOR EXAMPLE, WITH
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF USSR-ICELAND CULTURAL AGREEMENT
AND NUMBER OF LOCAL EVENTS CONNECTED WITH OBSERVANCE
WHICH AMBASSADOR WAS TO HAVE HOSTED.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIPT OF BIOGRAPHIC
DATA, ETC. ON FONOU.
IRVING

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
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